



State of Connecticut
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE CAPITOL
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COMMITTEE ON GENERAL LAW
TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 5313 AN ACT REQUIRING GAS STATIONS TO BE
EQUIPPED WITH ELECTRIC GENERATORS
FEBRUARY 7, 2013

Good Afternoon Senator Doyle, Representative Baram, and members of the Committee on General Law. My name is Elizabeth Ritter and I am the State Representative for the 38th District, representing the Towns of Waterford and Montville.

I wish to thank you for hearing this proposed bill. It came to me from a constituent in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy. He observed that in New Jersey, New York, and Connecticut, citizens were hampered in their efforts to cope with the storm damage and resulting electricity outages by their inability to obtain gasoline from filling stations. Stations had gas, but the gas pumps were inoperable without electricity. Many residents who had prepared for this storm by purchasing portable generators were still without power if they were unable to obtain gas to run them. Power saws and similar equipment used in clean-up operations were often unusable until gasoline could be found. Stations equipped with generators were able to pump their gas.

In other instances, gasoline distribution facilities without generators were unable to pump gas into trucks for distribution for the same reason.

A solution to this problem is the provision that gas stations and distribution facilities be equipped with generators to run their gas pumps.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this proposal. I am happy to answer any questions at any time.